

Sculpture commissioned for casino

(Continued from page 1)

position," Thomas said. "We have received queries from marketing executives who have worked with gaming interests in New Jersey and Nevada."

The next job that will be advertised is facilities services manager. "We are not only looking for a person who can maintain the facility, but an individual who can also serve as a construction inspector and administrator," he said.

The sculpture will be financed through gallery sales of reproductions of the sculpture.

Thomas said that the casino is scheduled to open in the latter part of October.

The traffic diversion project on Highway 18, the loop that will carry traffic to and from the casino, is expected to start in the middle of March.

Construction facility services manager

Exciting opportunity to serve as project coordinator during construction of premier gaming facility and as permanent facility services manager after construction is completed. Prerequisite includes experience as construction manager as well as experience as manager in maintenance/facility services. Management level salary negotiable based on qualifications. Send resume by March 3, 1995 for consideration to: Tammy Cook, Spirit Mountain Development Corporation, P.O. Box 39, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347.

The following list of publications will carry job announcements for the Spirit Mountain Casino: Smoke Signals, The Oregonian, Statesman Journal, Seattle Times Intelligence, Reno Gazette.

Housing needs assessment now available

MLP Associates, Inc., the consultant for the housing survey, has completed the Housing Needs Assessment report for the Tribe. It is available to tribal members at no charge. It discusses the background of the study, the survey, tribal

members' housing needs, preferences, and more. There will be more information in the next *Smoke Signals*, or call Nancy Holmes in Public Works (X 2401) for your free copy.

Former hoopster now Council team player

By Frank King



His smile is the feature you notice first.

Ed Larsen's grin puts you at ease, and makes you want to share your thoughts with him, tell him your troubles. Perhaps, because he is the oldest of six kids, and with a warm forthright personality, that folks look upon him as a typical big brother.

"My dad died in 1964, and I helped Mom raise the family," Ed said.

Ed Larsen was born in McMinnville, and grew up in the Grand Ronde Valley.

"I attended the old Grand Ronde grade school and graduated from Willamina High," he said.

He was a guard and forward with the Willamina High School team that placed second in the state basketball tournament in 1960.

"I still like to shoot baskets with my grandchildren," he said.

Basketball was his main interest, but he also shows a liking for slow-pitch softball.

"The Tribal Council takes up all of my time now. I don't seem to have much spare time for playing or hobbies," he said.

After he graduated from high school, Ed went to work in the woods.

"I learned to do everything - from setting choker to running a yarder," he said.

In 1969 he began driving a log truck, a activity that lasted for many years. First he worked for Duke Limbaugh of Sheridan then Zimbrick Logging for 17.5 years.

"My wife, Shirley, and I bought the old Indian Store, the Agency Store, in 1985. We did that until we sold out in February 1994," he said.

One of Ed's most satisfying accomplishments the Tribal Council has been trying to get a better wa-

ter system in the area, so the Tribe can have adequate supply for housing. Recently an agreement was reached that provides the Tribe with the necessary water for growth.

Ed, who has served on the Tribal Council since 1992, said he will run for the office again in September. He is a member of the Grand Ronde Valley Water District board of directors and a member of the Yamhill County Action Plan advisory committee. His council appointments include the Laws and Ordinances, Legislation and Jurisdiction, Public Works, Land Acquisition working groups, liaison with the Spirit Mountain Development Corporation, and delegate to the Housing Advisory Board.

The thing that impresses Ed the most, is the progress that the Tribe has made in recent years.

"I am proud that we have come so far so fast. I am grateful that I have been here to see that progress. My only regret, is that I waited so long to become involved in tribal affairs," he said. "I really love what I am doing now."

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